



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Kay C. Goss: Associate Director, Preparedness, Training and Exercises Directorate

Kay Goss was appointed by President Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as FEMA's Associate Director for Preparedness, Training and Exercises Directorate in September 1994. The first woman appointed to this post, Ms. Goss administers a broad range of programs designed to reduce injuries and death due to disasters, strengthen states and communities and prevent or reduce damage to public and personal property. Ms. Goss is also responsible for enhancing state and local emergency preparedness, training federal, state, and local emergency managers, and conducting a nationwide program of exercises. She also oversees FEMA's Mount Weather Emergency Assistance Center, the Emergency Management Institute the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board, International and Industrial Partnerships, the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program and the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program. These efforts are maximized through effective partnerships with business and industry and international authorities.

Ms. Goss' professional experience spans academia and national, state and local government. She served as a professor at Westark Community College and the University of Arkansas. She worked in various capacities for three members of Congress — Ray Thornton, Patricia Schroeder and the late Wilbur D. Mills. Before joining FEMA, Ms. Goss served as Senior Assistant for Intergovernmental Relations for then-Governor Bill Clinton, a position she held for almost 12 years. In that capacity, she had wide-ranging responsibilities including liaison for fire and emergency services.

Ms. Goss received a B.A. and M.A. in political science and public administration from the University of Arkansas, and completed all the course requirements for a doctorate in public administration from West Virginia University. She has done additional post-graduate work at Northwest Missouri State University, San Diego State University and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

A native of Arkansas, Ms. Goss serves on the boards of the Opera Company of Boston, the Wilbur D. Mills Memorial Foundation, the Wilbur D. Mills Treatment Center for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, and the Arkansas Women's History Institute. She also serves as a member of the Career Services Advisory Board of the Kennedy School, as well as chair of the Training Task Force and the Kennedy School's Washington Area Regional Council.

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